



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

HURRICANE AND FLOODING PREPAREDNESS WEEK

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service will observe the week of May 27-June 2, 2012 as National Hurricane Preparedness Week; and

WHEREAS, our Commonwealth is at great risk for the damaging effects of coastal and inland tropical storm systems which can include widespread flooding; and

WHEREAS, five Virginians died as a result of Hurricane Irene's impact in late August 2011, that caused millions of dollars in property damage, the second-highest level of power outages in Virginia history affecting some 2.5 million people, the fourth-highest level of storm surge in Virginia history and heavy rainfall that fell as far west as Interstate 81 and measured 15 inches in some locations; and

WHEREAS, flash flooding from the remnants of Tropical Storm Lee in early September 2011 took the lives of five citizens, displaced hundreds more from their destroyed and heavily damaged home and businesses, and caused widespread impacts to public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Hurricanes Camille (1969), Agnes (1972), Juan (1985), Floyd (1999), Isabel (2003), and Gaston (2004) caused some of Virginia's worst recorded disasters that injured or killed hundreds of people and resulted in millions of dollars in property damage; and

WHEREAS, Virginia residents should understand how hurricane hazards such as storm surge, flooding, high winds and tornadoes can affect their homes and communities and should develop an appropriate family emergency plan, stock water, non-perishable food, and emergency supplies including a battery-powered or hand crank radio; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth observes an annual Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday every May 25-31 to enable Virginians to gather emergency supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, the National Weather Service and local emergency managers offer hurricane and flooding season safety information and preparedness techniques to citizens throughout Virginia before the start of hurricane season;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize May 27-June 2, 2012, as **HURRICANE AND FLOODING PREPAREDNESS WEEK** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth